

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 12
By Cooper

A RESOLUTION to commend Raymond E. Council for his honorable and commendable service to Cowan, Tennessee as a teacher, principal, public servant and major contributor to society.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should pause to specially recognize those deserving public servants who have dedicated themselves to improving the quality of life for their fellow citizens; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Raymond E. Council is one such estimable person who demonstrates the greatest integrity and probity in all his chosen endeavors as both a loyal professional educator and an outstanding citizen of Cowan and Franklin County; and

WHEREAS, throughout Mr. Council's exemplary tenure of thirty years in the Franklin County school system as an enthusiastic educator and principal, he has distinguished himself as a positive and spirited professional of the highest caliber who is devoted to shaping the minds and characters of children who will lead his community in the future; and

WHEREAS, he has served with distinction as a teacher and principal at Cowan Elementary School since 1976; and

WHEREAS, Raymond E. Council's renowned career as an educator and administrator is accentuated through his commitment as a coordinator and coach of elementary basketball games, proudly leading young people in sportsmanship and participation, both on and off the basketball court; and

WHEREAS, in an obvious steadfastness to Cowan and Franklin County, Mr. Council teaches English as a Second Language (ESL); he has also served with distinction for several terms as President of the Franklin County Education Association and has been entrusted with such immense tasks as working to negotiate contracts on behalf of the teachers and principals; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Council's enthusiastic and genuine commitment to the betterment of his community is not limited to the school system; his superior allegiance is far reaching and includes prominence as an unwavering family man and as a faithful member of Cowan Fellowship Church, where he has served as a Sunday School teacher, choir member, youth director, and treasurer; and

WHEREAS, an ardor toward community is significant to Mr. Council, who has served in numerous leadership roles in the Cowan Lions Club, which is reflected in his selection as Cowan Lions Club Lion of the Year for 1990-1991 and Lion of the Decade in 1995-1996; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Council continues to promote and enhance his community through numerous responsibilities and achievements, including acting as Chairman of the Cowan Christmas parade for twelve years, being named one of the Outstanding Young Men in America in 1981, serving as President of the Franklin County Chamber of Commerce in 1982, and claiming recognition as a Melvin Jones Fellow for 1993-1994; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Council presently continues his tireless dedication to public service as the Chairman of the Franklin County Election Commission and Chairman of the Cowan Planning Commission; and

WHEREAS, Raymond E. Council truly epitomizes the ideal of the dedicated principal and educator who is wholly committed to the highest ideals of public support and quality education for all, and he should be specially recognized; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, That we hereby commend Raymond E. Council for his honorable and astute service to the good people of Cowan and Franklin County as both an educator and administrator and salute his unswerving commitment to living the examined life with courage and conviction.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.